

BOROUGH OF DARWEN

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
INCLUDING THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE
CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
FOR THE YEAR
1969



*With the Compliments
of the
Medical Officer of Health*

*Public Health Dept.
Darwen*

B O R O U G H O F D A R W E N

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

and

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

For the Year

1969

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

1969 - 1970

COUNCILLOR J. McGLYNN, MAYOR

CHAIRMAN :

COUNCILLOR DR. H. W. LEES, M.R.C.S.

VICE-CHAIRMAN:

COUNCILLOR B. LAWRENCE

ALD. P.S. HUNT

ALD. C.W. JONES, J.P.

ALD. MISS. C. MARSDEN

COUNC. W.F. BIRCH

COUNC. T. HARDMAN

COUNC. G. HARWOOD

COUNC. A.T. JEBB

COUNC. J.M. LONGWORTH

COUNC. J.H. SWANTON

COUNC. H. TORKINGTON

JOHN CHADWICK FIELDING, LL.B.,

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND TOWN CLERK.



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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

| | |
|--|---|
| Medical Officer of Health | (R.C. Webster, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H. |
| Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council | |
| Deputy Medical Officer of Health | (Sheila M. Hutchinson, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., |
| Senior Assistant Divisional Medical Officer, Lancashire County Council .. | (L.R.F.P. & S., D.R.C.O.G., D.P.H. |
| Chief Public Health Inspector | (H. Ramsbottom, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B., Cert.Insp. Meat and Other Foods. |
| Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector | (P.H. Watson, M.A.P.H.I., C.S.I.B., Cert. Insp. Meat and Other Foods. |
| District Public Health Inspectors | (T. Gregson, M.A.P.H.I., C.P.H.I.E.B., Dip. Insp. Meat and Other Foods. |
| | (B. Taylor, Dip. P.H.I.E.B. |
| Technical Assistant | (J.F. Oxford (Resigned 28/9/69) (F. Townley (Commenced 29/9/69) |
| Chief Clerk | (J. Bolton. |
| Clerical Staff | (Miss. M. Duckworth (Resigned 26/7/69) (Miss. M.A. Hoyle. (Miss. G. Bradshaw (Commenced 15/9/69) |
| Rodent Operator | (H. Brady. |
| Municipal Hostel, Warden | (R.W. Kilpatrick. |
| Matron | (Mrs. P. Kilpatrick. |
| Mortuary Attendant (Part-time) | (A. Bowcock. |

CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

| NAME OF CLINIC OR CENTRE | SITUATION | DAY AND TIME | BY WHOM PROVIDED |
|---|------------------------|--|---------------------------------|
| Child Welfare & Diphtheria Immunisation | Civic Health Centre | Monday 2 p.m. | Lancashire County Council |
| | St. Chad's Clinic | Wednesday 10 a.m. | |
| | Spring Vale Clinic | Wednesday 9.30 a.m. | |
| Ante-Natal | Civic Health Centre | Wednesday 2 p.m. | Lancashire County Council |
| | | Friday 2 p.m. (Specialist) | |
| Ante-Natal Relaxation | Civic Health Centre | Wednesday 2 p.m. | Lancashire County Council |
| Speech Therapy | Civic Health Centre | Tuesday a.m. and p.m. Friday a.m. and p.m. (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |
| Maternity & Child Welfare Dental and School Dental | Civic Health Centre | Tuesday to Friday 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. | Lancashire County Council |
| School Clinics | Civic Health Centre | Minor Ailments Monday to Friday | Lancashire County Council |
| Ophthalmic | Civic Health Centre | Monday a.m. (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |
| Cytology | Civic Health Centre | Tuesday Fortnightly 9.30 a.m. (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |

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CLINICS and TREATMENT CENTRES

| NAME OF CENTRE OR CLINIC | SITUATION | DAY AND TIME | BY WHOM PROVIDED |
|---|---|---|--|
| Ear, Nose and Throat | Civic Health Centre | Tuesday p.m. (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |
| Orthopaedic | Civic Health Centre | Wednesday 10 a.m. (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |
| Chiropodist | Civic Health Centre | Monday to Friday a.m. and p.m. Except Wednesday a.m. only (by appointment) | Lancashire County Council |
| Cardiac Clinic for Expectant and Nursing Mothers | Queen's Park Hospital, Blackburn. | 1st Tuesday in every month 11 a.m. (by appointment) | Blackburn & District Hospital Management Committee |
| Tuberculosis Dispensary | Royal Infirmary, Blackburn | Tuesday 8 50 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 10 to 11. 15 a.m. and 1. 40 p.m. to 4. 30 p.m. Friday 8.50 a.m. to 12 noon. | Manchester Regional Hospital Board |
| Venereal Diseases | Royal Infirmary, Blackburn | Males and Females Monday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Tuesday 10 a.m. to 12 noon Wednesday 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. Thursday 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. | Manchester Regional Hospital Board |
| B.C.G. Vaccination Prevention of Tuberculosis | Civic Health Centre also Royal Infirmary, Blackburn. | By appointment By appointment | Lancashire County Council Manchester Regional Hospital Board |
| Poliomyelitis | Civic Health Centre St. Chad's Clinic Spring Vale Clinic | Monday p.m. Thursday p.m. Wednesday 10 a.m. Wednesday 9 30. a.m. | Lancashire County Council |

August, 1970

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Lady and Gentlemen.

I have pleasure in presenting to you the Annual Report of the Public Health Department for 1969 a very special pleasure since this report makes thirty years, a generation, in which I have been making such reports. The present report shows a generally satisfactory state of Public Health, and it is perhaps worthwhile looking back over the records to notice the changes in that time.

When I came to Darwen in 1939 the town was at the close of the terrible years of depression, my predecessor noted that in 1938 nearly 30% of insured adults were unemployed. today Darwen is a booming town; the Health Department was housed in small cramped offices in the Town Hall, the clinic in a converted shop on Bolton Road; Bull Hill Maternity Home was then a busy "fever" hospital which I often visited three or even four times in a day.

A small table of figures shows striking differences in Public Health

| Year | 1909 | 1938 | 1969 |
|----------------------------------|------------|------|------|
| Birth Rate | 19.12 | 11.8 | 15.8 |
| Still Birth Rate/per 1000 births | not stated | 15.8 | 9.0 |
| Death Rate | 14.44 | 15.7 | 14.1 |
| Maternal Death Rate | not stated | 7.54 | nil |
| Infant Mortality Rate | 138 | 58 | 18 |
| Cases of diphtheria | 11 | 97 | nil |
| Deaths from tuberculosis | 35 | 20 | nil |

These figures serve as indices of the remarkable improvement over two generations. Today the Public Health services are housed in a building, which, even after more than twenty years, remains fit for modern use. I remember seeing its foundations laid when the threat of war already hung over us, a significant sign of the always lively interest of the Committee in Public Health.

I am deeply grateful to the Corporation which has entrusted to me over the years the privilege of working for a progressive authority, and to my many official colleagues over the years my sincere thanks, especially to the three able officers who have in succession been your Chief Public Health Inspectors and to whom I acknowledge my deep debt - Mr. J.C. Almond, Mr. E.P. McGlynn and Mr. H. Ramsbottom. To vary the text a little may I say the lines indeed fell out for me in pleasant places.

I am, Lady and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

R. C. WEBSTER,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1

Statistics and Social Conditions

General Provisions of the Health Services

Prevalence and Control of Infectious Diseases

BY

R. C. WEBSTER, T.D., B.Sc., M.D., D.P.H., D.C.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

SUMMARY of STATISTICS and SOCIAL CONDITIONS, 1969.

GENERAL
INFORMATION

| | |
|--|--|
| Geographical Position | Lat. 53°41' 25" N Lon. 2°28' 32" W |
| Elevation above sea level | 500 ft. to over 800 ft. |
| Geological formation | Boulder clay and sand over coal measures. |
| Area (in acres) | 5,959 |
| Population - Census, 1961 | 29,452 |
| Population - Registrar General's Mid-year Estimate for 1969 | 28,500 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses - Census 1961 | 10,532 |
| Number of Inhabited Houses at end of 1969 | 10,812 |
| Number of Families or Separate Occupiers at Census, 1961 | 10,532 |
| Rateable Value | £923,248 |
| Sum represented by a Penny Rate | £ 3,720 |

The inhabitants are mainly of the artisan, or working class, and the principal industries are cotton weaving, paper making and staining, plastic and paint manufacturing and engineering trades.

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

| | | <u>MALES</u> | <u>FEMALES</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | |
|---|---|--------------|----------------|--------------|---|
| LIVE BIRTHS | { Legitimate | 211 | 199 | 410 | Birth-rate per 1,000 Estimated Home Population mid 1969 Crude 15.8 Adjusted 17.5 |
| | { Illegitimate | 25 | 16 | 41 | |
| | { --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| | { Total | <u>236</u> | <u>215</u> | <u>451</u> | |
| STILL BIRTHS | { Legitimate | 4 | 0 | 4 | Rate per 1,000 total Births: 9 |
| | { Illegitimate | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | { --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| | { Total | <u>4</u> | <u>0</u> | <u>4</u> | |
| DEATHS | { | 201 | 204 | 405 | Death-rate per 1,000 estimated home population mid 1969 Crude 14.2 Adjusted 14.1 |
| | { | | | | |
| | { | | | | |
| | { | | | | |
| MORTALITY RATES PER 1,000 EST. POPULATION | { Respiratory T.B. | | | | NIL |
| | { Malignant Neoplasms, etc | | | | 2.84 |
| MATERNAL MORTALITY | { Deaths from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion | | | | NIL |
| | { Mortality Rate per 1,000 total Births ... | | | | NIL |
| | | <u>MALES</u> | <u>FEMALES</u> | <u>TOTAL</u> | |
| INFANTILE MORTALITY (Infants under the age of one year) | { Legitimate | | | | |
| | { Infants ... | 2 | 6 | 8 | |
| | { Illegitimate | | | | |
| | { Infants ... | 0 | 0 | 0 | |
| | { --- | --- | --- | --- | |
| | { Total Deaths | <u>2</u> | <u>6</u> | <u>8</u> | |
| Rate per 1,000 Live Births | | | | | 18 |

INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES

| YEAR | DARWEN | ENGLAND AND WALES |
|------|--------|-------------------|
| 1960 | 30.6 | 21.7 |
| 1961 | 16.0 | 21.4 |
| 1962 | 6.2 | 21.4 |
| 1963 | 30.7 | 20.9 |
| 1964 | 23.7 | 20.0 |
| 1965 | 10.5 | 19.0 |
| 1966 | 27.7 | 19.0 |
| 1967 | 19.0 | 18.3 |
| 1968 | 21.0 | 18.0 |
| 1969 | 18.0 | 18.0 |

| OTHER INFANT DEATHS | TOTAL | RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION |
|---|--|---------------------------------|
| Deaths from Measles(at all ages).. | Nil | Nil |
| Deaths from Whooping Cough (at all ages) ... | Nil | Nil |
| Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years) ... | Nil | Nil |
| NEO-NATAL MORTALITY | Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age | 7 |
| | Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births | 16 |
| EARLY NEO-NATAL MORTALITY | Deaths under 1 week per 1,00 Total Live Births | 11 |
| PERINATAL MORTALITY RATE | Stillbirths and Deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 Total Live and Stillbirths | 20 |

BIRTHS. The number of live births registered during the year was 451, giving a birth-rate adjusted by comparison with the estimated home populations of 17.5 per 1,000. The trend of this rate over the past ten years in comparison with the rate for England and Wales is shown in the following table -

| YEAR | DARWEN | | | ENGLAND AND WALES | |
|------|------------------|--------|-------|-------------------|----------------|
| | NUMBER OF BIRTHS | | | RATE PER 1,000 | RATE PER 1,000 |
| | MALE | FEMALE | TOTAL | | |
| 1960 | 235 | 222 | 457 | 16.8 | 17.1 |
| 1961 | 250 | 250 | 500 | 18.2 | 17.4 |
| 1962 | 232 | 253 | 485 | 17.7 | 18.0 |
| 1963 | 255 | 266 | 521 | 19.6 | 18.2 |
| 1964 | 258 | 249 | 507 | 19.3 | 18.4 |
| 1965 | 246 | 228 | 474 | 18.1 | 18.1 |
| 1966 | 269 | 237 | 506 | 19.4 | 17.7 |
| 1967 | 260 | 255 | 515 | 19.9 | 17.2 |
| 1968 | 245 | 222 | 467 | 18.0 | 16.9 |
| 1969 | 236 | 215 | 451 | 17.5 | 16.3 |

ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS. The following table shows the number of illegitimate births and deaths for the past ten years:-

| YEAR | NUMBER OF BIRTHS | RATE PER CENT OF LIVE BIRTHS | NUMBER OF DEATHS UNDER 1 YEAR | DEATH RATE PER 1,000 ILLEGITIMATE LIVE BIRTHS |
|------|------------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| 1960 | 19 | 4.15 | Nil | Nil |
| 1961 | 28 | 5.50 | Nil | Nil |
| 1962 | 32 | 6.59 | Nil | Nil |
| 1963 | 35 | 6.71 | 1 | 28 |
| 1964 | 34 | 6.70 | 2 | 59 |
| 1965 | 32 | 6.75 | Nil | Nil |
| 1966 | 32 | 6.32 | Nil | Nil |
| 1967 | 49 | 9.51 | 3 | 61 |
| 1968 | 46 | 9.85 | Nil | Nil |
| 1969 | 41 | 9.09 | Nil | Nil |

STILLBIRTHS - The table given below sets out details relating to stillbirths for the past ten years:-

| YEAR | NUMBER OF STILLBIRTHS | | | RATE PER 1,000 BIRTHS | RATE PER 1,000 POPULATION | |
|------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------|
| | LEGIT- IMATE | ILLEG- ITIMATE | TOTAL | | DARWEN | ENGLAND & WALES |
| 1960 | 16 | Nil | 16 | 33.8 | 0.54 | 0.34 |
| 1961 | 10 | 4 | 14 | 27.2 | 0.47 | 0.33 |
| 1962 | 5 | 2 | 7 | 14.2 | 0.23 | 0.33 |
| 1963 | 10 | 3 | 13 | 24.3 | 0.44 | 0.32 |
| 1964 | 7 | 3 | 10 | 19.3 | 0.34 | 0.31 |
| 1965 | 13 | 1 | 14 | 28.7 | 0.48 | 0.29 |
| 1966 | 9 | 1 | 10 | 19.4 | 0.34 | 0.28 |
| 1967 | 5 | 1 | 6 | 12.0 | 0.20 | 0.26 |
| 1968 | 10 | Nil | 10 | 21.0 | 0.34 | 0.24 |
| 1969 | 4 | Nil | 4 | 9.0 | 0.14 | 0.21 |

DEATHS - The number of deaths of Darwen residents which occurred during the year was 405, representing an adjusted death-rate per 1,000 of the population of 14.1

The trend of the death-rate of the Borough for the past ten years is shown below in comparison with the rate for England and Wales:-

| YEAR | DARWEN | | ENGLAND AND WALES |
|------|--------------|----------------|-------------------|
| | TOTAL DEATHS | RATE PER 1,000 | RATE PER 1,000 |
| 1960 | 430 | 14.3 | 11.5 |
| 1961 | 480 | 15.9 | 12.0 |
| 1962 | 462 | 15.2 | 11.9 |
| 1963 | 451 | 15.3 | 12.2 |
| 1964 | 377 | 13.0 | 11.3 |
| 1965 | 417 | 13.9 | 11.5 |
| 1966 | 470 | 15.9 | 11.7 |
| 1967 | 417 | 14.4 | 11.2 |
| 1968 | 421 | 14.5 | 11.9 |
| 1969 | 405 | 14.1 | 11.9 |

The following is a copy of the Eighth Revision of the International Classification of Diseases supplied by the Registrar General of the causes and sex distribution of deaths of Darwin residents.

The information does not include non-civilian deaths:-

| B. LIST NUMBER | CAUSE TITLE | MALES | FEMALES | TOTAL |
|-------------------|--|-------|---------|-------|
| B. 1 | Cholera | - | - | - |
| B. 2 | Typhoid Fever | - | - | - |
| B. 3 | Bacillary Dysentery & Amoebiasis | - | - | - |
| B. 4 | Enteritis & Other Diarrhoeal Diseases | - | - | - |
| B. 5 | Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. | - | - | - |
| B. 6 | Other Tuberculosis, incl. Late Effects | - | - | - |
| B. 7 | Plague | - | - | - |
| B. 8 | Diphtheria | - | - | - |
| B. 9 | Whooping Cough | - | - | - |
| B.10 | Streptococcal Sore Throat & Scarlet Fever | - | - | - |
| B.11 | Meningococcal Infection | - | - | - |
| B.12 | Acute Poliomyelitis | - | - | - |
| B.13 | Smallpox | - | - | - |
| B.14 | Measles | - | - | - |
| B.15 | Typhus & Other Rickettsioses | - | - | - |
| B.16 | Malaria | - | - | - |
| B.17 | Syphilis & its Sequelae | - | - | - |
| B.18 | All Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases | 1 | - | 1 |
| B.19(1) | Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc. | - | 1 | 1 |
| B.19(2) | Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus | 3 | - | 3 |
| B.19(3) | Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach | 11 | 2 | 13 |
| B.19(4) | Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine | 3 | 7 | 10 |
| B.19(5) | Malignant Neoplasm, Larynx | 1 | - | 1 |
| B.19(6) | Malignant Neoplasm, Lung & Bronchus . | 17 | 2 | 19 |
| B.19(7) | Malignant Neoplasm, Breast | - | 7 | 7 |
| B.19(8) | Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus | - | 7 | 7 |
| B.19(9) | Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate | 3 | - | 3 |
| B.19(10) | Leukaemia | 2 | - | 2 |
| B.19(11) | Other Malignant Neoplasms, etc..... | 5 | 10 | 15 |
| B.20 | Benign Neoplasms & Neoplasms of Unspecified Nature | - | - | - |
| B.21 | Diabetes Mellitus | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B.22 | Avitaminoses & Other Nutritional Deficiency | - | - | - |
| B.46(PT) | Other Endocrine, Nutritional and Metabolic Diseases | - | - | - |
| B.23 | Anaemias | - | 1 | 1 |
| B.46(PT) | Other Diseases of Blood and Blood - Forming Organs | - | - | - |
| B.46(PT) | Mental Disorders | - | - | - |

.. continued over ..

| B. LIST NUMBER | CAUSE TITLE | MALES | FEMALES | TOTAL |
|-------------------|---|-------|---------|-------|
| B.24 | Meningitis | - | - | - |
| B.46(4) | Other Diseases of Nervous System & Sense Organs | - | 2 | 2 |
| B.25 | Active Rheumatic Fever | - | - | - |
| B.26 | Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease .. | 2 | 5 | 7 |
| B.27 | Hypertensive Disease | 6 | 5 | 11 |
| B.28 | Ischaemic Heart Disease | 59 | 53 | 112 |
| B.29 | Other Forms of Heart Disease | 5 | 7 | 12 |
| B.30 | Cerebrovascular Disease | 22 | 38 | 60 |
| B.46(5) | Other Diseases of the Circulatory System | 6 | 11 | 17 |
| B.31 | Influenza | - | - | - |
| B.32 | Pneumonia | 16 | 16 | 32 |
| B.33(1) | Bronchitis, Emphysema | 16 | 10 | 26 |
| B.33(2) | Asthma | - | 1 | 1 |
| B.46(6) | Other Diseases of the Respiratory System | 1 | - | 1 |
| B.34 | Peptic Ulcer | 3 | 3 | 6 |
| B.35 | Appendicitis | - | - | - |
| B.36 | Intestinal Obstruction & Hernia .. | - | 2 | 2 |
| B.37 | Cirrhosis of Liver | 2 | - | 2 |
| B.46(7) | Other Diseases of the Digestive System | 2 | 2 | 4 |
| B.38 | Nephritis & Nephrosis | - | - | - |
| B.39 | Hyperplasia of Prostate | - | - | - |
| B.46(8) | Other Diseases of the Genito- Urinary System | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B.46(PT) | Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System | - | - | - |
| B.40 | Abortion | - | - | - |
| B.41 | Other Complications of Pregnancy, Childbirth & Puerperium | - | - | - |
| B.46(PT) | Diseases of the Skin & Subcutaneous Tissue | - | - | - |
| B.42 | Congenital Anomalies | - | 1 | 1 |
| B.43 | Birth Injury, Difficult Labour & Other Anoxic & Hypoxic Conditions | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| B.44 | Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| B.45 | Symptoms & Ill-Defined Conditions | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| BE.47 | Motor Vehicle Accidents | 4 | - | 4 |
| BE.48 | All Other Accidents | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| BE.49 | Suicide & Self-Inflicted Injuries | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| BE.50 | All Other External Causes | - | 1 | 1 |
| TOTALS :- | | 201 | 204 | 405 |

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

A comprehensive range of services is maintained by the Local Health Authority, Lancashire County Council, including Ante-Natal Clinics, Child Welfare Clinics, Speech Therapy Clinics and other School Health Services - Medical and Dental.

Ambulance service is provided by Lancashire County Council.

Hospital services are provided by Manchester Regional Hospital Board, including general hospital facilities in Blackburn and a Maternity Home in the former Darwen Infectious Diseases Hospital at Bull Hill.

LABORATORY FACILITIES

The Pathological and Bacteriological Department of the Blackburn and East Lancashire Royal Infirmary undertake the examination of pathological specimens for the Borough of Darwen, in accordance with the Government scheme now being officially carried out in this area by the Manchester Regional Hospital Board.

The bacteriological examination of food, water and other non-personal specimens is carried out by the Public Health Laboratory, Preston, acting for the Medical Research Council of the Ministry of Health.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES

The numerical and age incidence of infectious diseases, other than tuberculosis, is shown in the following tables, which includes particulars of Darwen cases notified and accepted. The so-called minor infectious diseases, other than measles and whooping cough, are not included in the tables, as they are not notifiable in Darwen and, therefore, statistics as to their incidence are not reliable.

| | MEASLES (EXCLUDING RUBELLA) | | DYSENTERY | | SCARLET FEVER | | DIPHThERIA | | ACUTE MENINGITIS | | ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS PARALYTIC | | NON PARALYTIC | |
|--------------|-----------------------------------|-----|-----------|----|------------------|---|------------|---|---------------------|---|----------------------------------|---|------------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| UNDER 1 YEAR | 14 | 11 | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1 " | 26 | 24 | | 2 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2 YEARS | 27 | 36 | 1 | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 3 " | 37 | 36 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4 " | 35 | 40 | 1 | 4 | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 5 - 9 " | 97 | 95 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 4 | | | | | | | | |
| 10 -14 " | 1 | 2 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 -24 " | | | 2 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 and over | | | 4 | 8 | | | | | | | | | | |
| AGE UNKNOWN | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | 237 | 244 | 13 | 26 | 7 | 4 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |

| | ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS INFECTIVE | | POST INFECTIONOUS | | LEPTO- SPIROSIS | | PARA- TYPHOID FEVER | | TYPHOID FEVER | | FOOD POISONING | |
|---------------|---------------------------------|---|----------------------|---|--------------------|---|---------------------------|---|------------------|---|-------------------|---|
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| UNDER 5 YEARS | | | | | | | | | | | | 1 |
| 5 - 14 " | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | |
| 15 - 44 " | | | | | | | | | | | 1 | 1 |
| 45 - 64 " | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 65 and over | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| AGE UNKNOWN | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | 2 | 2 |

| MALES | FEMALES |
|-----------------------|---------|
| SMALLPOX | |
| - | - |
| OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM | |
| - | - |
| ANTHRAX | |
| - | - |
| YELLOW FEVER | |
| - | - |

.. continued over ..

| | TETANUS | | INFECTIVE JAUNDICE | |
|--------------|---------|---|--------------------|----|
| | M | F | M | F |
| UNDER 1 YEAR | | | | |
| 1 " | | | | 1 |
| 2 - 4 YEARS | | | 1 | 1 |
| 5 - 9 " | | | 7 | 6 |
| 10 - 14 " | | | 2 | 2 |
| 15 - 19 " | | | | 1 |
| 20 - 24 " | | | 2 | 1 |
| 25 - 34 " | | | 2 | 2 |
| 35 - 44 " | | | | 2 |
| 45 - 54 " | | | 1 | 2 |
| 55 - 64 " | | | | 1 |
| 65 - 74 " | | | | |
| 75 and over | | | | |
| Age Unknown | | | | |
| TOTAL | - | - | 15 | 13 |

| AGE PERIODS | WHOOPIING COUGH | |
|----------------|-----------------|---|
| | M | F |
| UNDER 3 MONTHS | | |
| 6 " | | |
| 9 " | | |
| 1 YEAR | | |
| 2 - 4 YEARS | | |
| 5 - 9 " | | |
| 10 - 14 " | | |
| 15 - 19 " | | |
| 20 - 24 " | | |
| 25 - 34 " | | |
| 35 - 44 " | | |
| 45 - 54 " | | |
| 55 - 64 " | | |
| 65 - 74 " | | |
| 75 and over | | |
| Age Unknown | | |
| TOTAL | - | - |

CASES REMOVED TO HOSPITAL AND DEATHS FROM INFECTIOUS DISEASES

| DISEASE | HOSPITAL | | TOTAL DEATHS |
|--------------------|---------------|--------------------|--------------|
| | CASES REMOVED | DEATHS IN HOSPITAL | |
| Dysentary | 1 | - | - |
| Measles | 8 | - | - |
| Food Poisoning | 1 | - | - |
| Infective Jaundice | 4 | - | - |

The following table gives the comparative incidence of Infectious Diseases during the past five years:-

| DISEASE | 1965 | 1966 | 1967 | 1968 | 1969 |
|---|------|------|------|------|------|
| Smallpox | - | - | - | - | - |
| Scarlet Fever | 103 | 59 | 15 | 25 | 11 |
| Diphtheria | - | - | - | - | - |
| Typhoid Fever (excluding Paratyphoid) | - | - | - | - | - |
| Paratyphoid Fever | 2 | - | - | - | - |
| Measles (excluding Rubella) ... | 609 | 253 | 355 | 46 | 481 |
| Whooping Cough | 17 | 9 | 84 | 12 | - |
| (A) Acute Pneumonia (Primary and Influenzal) | 1 | - | - | 1 | - |
| (A) Puerperal Pyrexia | - | 1 | 2 | 1 | - |
| ACUTE POLIOMYELITIS:- | | | | | |
| Paralytic | - | - | - | - | - |
| Non-Paralytic | - | - | - | - | - |
| ACUTE ENCEPHALITIS:- | | | | | |
| Infective | - | - | - | - | - |
| Post Infectious | - | - | - | - | - |
| Dysentery | 7 | 8 | 60 | 125 | 39 |
| Ophthalmia Neonatorum | - | - | - | - | - |
| (A) Erysipelas | - | 2 | - | - | - |
| Leptospirosis | - | - | - | - | - |
| Acute Meningitis | - | - | - | - | - |
| Anthrax | - | - | - | - | - |
| Yellow Fever | - | - | - | - | - |
| Food Poisoning | 2 | 2 | - | 17 | 4 |
| Tetanus | - | - | - | - | - |
| Infective Jaundice | - | - | - | 9 | 34 |
| TOTALS :- | 741 | 334 | 516 | 236 | 569 |

(A) Notified to 30th September, 1968.

TUBERCULOSIS Cases of Tuberculosis were admitted to various Sanatoria under the Regional Hospital Board.

The Tuberculosis Scheme is administered by the Lancashire County Council and Regional Hospital Board, but the Area Tuberculosis Officer and Nurse maintain close co-operation with the Public Health Department, furnishing particulars about housing conditions and environment generally. The necessary disinfection is carried out by the Public Health Department.

The following table shows the age group incidence of new cases of tuberculosis notified, and the deaths from the disease during 1969:-

| AGE PERIODS | NEW CASES | | | | DEATHS | | | |
|------------------|-------------|---|-----------------|---|-------------|---|-----------------|---|
| | RESPIRATORY | | NON-RESPIRATORY | | RESPIRATORY | | NON-RESPIRATORY | |
| | M | F | M | F | M | F | M | F |
| | | | | | | | | |
| 0 - 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 1 - 2 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 2 - 5 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 5 - 10 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 10 - 15 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 15 - 20 | - | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| 20 - 25 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 25 - 35 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 35 - 45 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 45 - 55 | 1 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 55 - 65 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 65 - 75 | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| 75 and upwards . | - | - | - | - | - | - | - | - |
| TOTALS:- | 2 | - | 1 | - | - | - | - | - |
| | 2 | | 1 | | - | | - | |

The following table shows the number of new cases of Tuberculosis placed on the Register during the last ten years :-

| YEAR | RESPIRATORY | | NON-RESPIRATORY | | TOTAL |
|------|-------------|--------|-----------------|--------|-------|
| | MALE | FEMALE | MALE | FEMALE | |
| 1960 | 4 | 5 | - | - | 9 |
| 1961 | 5 | 2 | - | - | 7 |
| 1962 | 4 | 2 | - | - | 6 |
| 1963 | 11 | 2 | - | - | 13 |
| 1964 | 8 | 1 | - | - | 9 |
| 1965 | 3 | 2 | - | 2 | 7 |
| 1966 | 2 | 1 | 1 | - | 4 |
| 1967 | 3 | 2 | - | 2 | 7 |
| 1968 | 1 | 1 | 1 | - | 3 |
| 1969 | 2 | - | 1 | - | 3 |

NATIONAL
ASSISTANCE
ACT, 1948
AND 1951
Section 47

No action taken under this Section.

TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE HEALTH COMMITTEE

I beg to submit the Annual Report on the Environmental Health Services for the year 1969.

It is pleasing to report that there has been a marked decrease in noise nuisances during the year thanks to the excellent co-operation of industry.

Private tips have had to be kept under constant surveillance to keep nuisance down to the minimum. It is hoped that more stringent conditions will be required when the planning consent for the tips concerned has to be renewed.

At the end of the year two major Compulsory Purchase Orders were ready for submission to the Ministry. These were the Ashton Street and Ellenshaw Areas.

Vandalism continues to cause concern and many visits have to be made to premises regarding complaints of nuisance and danger.

During the year Mr. J.F. Oxford, the Technical Assistant for smoke control, joined Salford Corporation and was replaced by Mr. F. Townley a former member of the Department.

Miss. M. Duckworth after many years on the staff became a member of the Town Clerk's Department as a Committee Clerk and was replaced by Miss. M.A. Hoyle.

A new junior clerk Miss. G. Bradshaw was appointed to take over the duties formally carried out by Miss. Hoyle.

In conclusion I would like to thank Dr. Webster and Dr. Hutchinson for their help and also the staff and employees of the Department, particularly my Deputy, Mr. P.H. Watson, for their keenness and co-operation, and finally to the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Members of the Health Committee for their continued support and encouragement.

I am Lady and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H. Ramsbottom,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

WATER SUPPLY

The town is served by the Fylde Water Board. Water is supplied as follows:-

- (a) The high level Sunnyhurst storage reservoir which was constructed in 1875. Situated over 900 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 92 million gallons.
- (b) The lower level Earnsdale impounding reservoir constructed in 1863. Situated over 700 ft. above sea level it has a capacity of 100 million gallons.

When reservoir stocks are depleted to a level below the control line, the difference is made up by bringing water from the Fishmoor Treatment Plant at Blackburn.

Work completed in recent years to improve the Darwen supply system consists of :-

- (a) The construction at Sunnyhurst of a reinforced concrete clear water tank of 0.8 million gallons capacity, covered with an aluminium roof.
- (b) The construction of a similar type of tank at Earnsdale of 0.9 million gallons capacity.
- (c) The Earnsdale pump house, which is a brick built super-structure on a reinforced concrete sub-structure.
- (d) The renovation of two existing slow sand filters at Sunnyhurst.
- (e) The construction of a new building at Sunnyhurst to house lime dosing equipment, and a further building to house the ozone treatment plant, together with mess room accommodation.

Typical analysis of water from the two reservoirs are as follows :-

| | Sunnyhurst High Level Supply | Earnsdale Low Level Supply |
|--|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Appearance | Clear & Bright | Clear & Bright |
| Colour (Hazen p.p.m. Pt) | 10 | 4 |
| Turbidity (p.p.m. Silica) | Nil | Nil |
| Odour | Nil | Nil |
| Taste | Normal | Normal |
| Reaction pH Value | 7.1 | 7.8 |
| | p.p.m. | |
| Residual Chlorine | 0.15 | 0.10 |
| Free & Saline Ammonia as N ₂ | 0.08 | 0.10 |
| Albuminoid Ammonia as N ₂ | 0.10 | 0.06 |
| Nitrous Nitrogen as N ₂ | - | - |
| Nitric Nitrogen as N ₂ | 0.40 | 0.21 |
| Oxygen absorbed 4 hrs @ 27°C | 0.85 | 0.18 |
| Free Acidity as CO ₂ | - | - |
| Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 16 | 30 |
| Total Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 42 | 42 |
| Non-Carbonate Hardness as CaCO ₃ | 26 | 12 |
| Excess Alkalinity as Na ₂ CO ₃ | Nil | Nil |
| Calcium as CaCO ₃ | 32 | 32 |
| Magnesium as CaCO ₃ | 10 | 10 |
| Total Solids dried at 180°C | 90 | 83 |
| Chloride as Cl | 13 | 15 |
| Sulphate as SO ₄ | 28 | 20 |
| Lead as Pb | - less than 0.05 - | - |
| Manganese as Mn | 0.12 | 0.04 |
| Copper as Cu | - | - |
| Iron as Fe | 0.13 | 0.05 |
| Aluminium as Al | 0.11 | 0.06 |
| Fluoride as F | - less than 0.10 - | - |

During the year the Fylde Water Board took a total of 78 samples from the reservoirs.

75 examinations of the water supply were carried out by the Water Board from the taps of domestic users during the year.

In addition occasional samples are taken by the Health Department after complaints.

The approximate number of dwelling houses supplied direct with public water is 12,036.

In an effort to encourage owners of property to install separate service pipes where the pressure is low, the Corporation and the Fylde Water Board pay half the cost of the installation.

PRIVATE WATER SUPPLIES

There are still a number of dwellings in the town which because of their situation have to rely on private water supplies and these are sampled at regular intervals. Users are advised on precautionary measures while steps are being taken for permanent purification. In addition every effort is made to change these private supplies to the public supply where practicable.

TABLES

CORPORATION

CHEMICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

| | TOTAL | SATISFACTORY | UNSATISFACTORY |
|----------------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| Mains supply | 1 | 1 | NIL |
| Private supply | 6 | 3 | 3 |

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

| | TOTAL | SATISFACTORY | UNSATISFACTORY |
|----------------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| Mains supply | 4 | 4 | NIL |
| Private supply | 19 | 10 | 9 |

FYLDE WATER BOARD

EXAMINATION OF WATER FROM DOMESTIC USERS

| TOTAL | SATISFACTORY | UNSATISFACTORY |
|-------|--------------|----------------|
| 75 | 75 | NIL |

BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

| | TOTAL | SATISFACTORY | UNSATISFACTORY |
|------------|-------|--------------|----------------|
| Reservoirs | 78 | 78 | NIL |

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

During the year a further 23 waste water closets were converted to the fresh water system. The total now remaining is 471.

Apart from farms, pail closets total 28 in all, of which 5 are for country cottages the rest being used in the Parks and isolated sites.

It is interesting to note that in 1949, there were 1,798 waste water closets and 147 pail closets in the Borough.

The number of septic tanks is now 32.

The table below gives the closet accommodation in the Borough :

| | |
|---------------------------|--------|
| Pails | 28 |
| Water Closets | 14,358 |
| Waste Water Closets | 471 |
| | ----- |
| Total | 14,857 |
| | ----- |

Conversions and Installations during 1969 :-

| | |
|---|-----|
| New Water Closets fixed | 105 |
| Waste Water Closets converted to Water Closets | 23 |
| Pail Closets converted to Water Closets | 10 |
| Baths installed during the year | 32 |
| Showers installed during the year .. | 2 |
| Waste Water Closets dismantled | 0 |
| Water Closets dismantled | 76 |

RIVERS AND STREAMS

The River Darwen continues to be polluted by industrial waste effluents and used as a dumping ground for unwanted refuse.

Unfortunately the demands on the River Board personnel prevent frequent inspections of the river although I think some priority should be given to a river such as this which passes in close proximity to dwelling houses at certain stages of its course.

CLEAN AIR

Industrial atmospheric pollution from boiler plant has been contained to minimum proportions and, on the whole, plant engineers co-operate with the Department to the full. Since the implementation of the Clean Air Acts and associated Regulations, modernization and mechanisation of plant and ancillary equipment has progressed satisfactorily but occasional technical breakdown produces grounds for complaint. It is usual, however, for the Department to be advised by telephone of details of the fault and steps being taken to minimise nuisance. Fortunately these occurrences are rare.

On the domestic front, the implementation of smoke control was made more difficult by the short supply of many types of solid smokeless fuels and the Corporation were placed in the embarrassing position of preparing Smoke Control Orders, whilst at the same time suspecting that reactive open fire fuels were not readily available. Over the 1969 Christmas period, the problem became acute and fuel suppliers, with whom we have a good working relationship, had no option but to supplement their supplies with coal. This solid fuel shortage gave the Corporation no option but to think in terms of smoke control suspension and the Ministry of Housing and Local Government were contacted with a view to suspending existing Orders. As a result of this set back, the solid fuel enthusiast in Darwen is becoming rare and rapidly becoming replaced by gas minded householders. The number of people opting for gas appliances in new Smoke Control Areas is now in the region of 80%.

Smoke emissions from other than boiler plant occur, usually by accident. Uncontrolled incineration of rubbish by shopkeepers and householders in the confines of their premises produce localized nuisance but personal approach usually prevents repeat performances. The disposal of industrial waste including P.V.C. on tips can produce pollution problems and careful watch is maintained to prevent firing of tips with resultant health hazard.

During the year the Darwen No.4 Smoke Control Area was confirmed to come into operation on the 31st of October and work was proceeding on the No. 5 Area to come into operation towards the middle of 1970.

A total of 1,689 visits were made during the year in connection with smoke control.

Details of Smoke Control Areas as at 31st December, 1969

| Areas | No.1 (1962) 1/10/63 | No.2 (1966) 1/7/67 | No.3 (1967) 1/7/68 | No.3A (1967) 1/10/68 | No.4 (1968) 31/10/69 |
|---------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Acreage | 394 | 121 | 206 | 12 | 253 |
| Private dwellings | 551 | 401 | 418 | 242 | 359 |
| Commercial premises | 3 | 3 | 2 | 10 | 9 |
| Industrial premises | 6 | 4 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| Others | 10 | 30 | 27 | 38 | Nil |

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

Little change has occurred throughout the year in the implementation of the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act and routine inspections still reveal isolated unregistered premises. In the same way, reduction of staff to family members only removed a number of premises already registered from the scope of the Act. Informal action has been necessary in 5 cases to require improvements in working conditions of personnel, with especial reference to maintaining adequate heating during the winter period. Most of the infringements discovered were of a minor nature but never-the-less consume Departmental time in enforcing satisfactory remedies.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

3 accidents were reported and none discovered.

| Class of Premises | No. of Premises Registered | No. of Persons Employed |
|---|-------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Offices | 39 | 259 |
| Retail Shops | 78 | 364 |
| Wholesale Shops and Warehouses | 4 | 15 |
| Catering Establishments and Canteens | 15 | 92 |
| Fuel Storage Depots | 2 | 23 |
| | <u>138</u> | <u>753</u> |

FACTORIES ACT, 1961

Inspections for the purposes of provisions as to health.

| Premises | Number on Register | Number of | | |
|--|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| | | Inspections | Written Notices | Occupiers Prosecuted |
| Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority | 7 | 22 | Nil | Nil |
| Factories not included in above in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority | 164 | 271 | Nil | Nil |
| Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out- workers' premises) | 21 | 38 | Nil | Nil |
| Total:- | 192 | 331 | Nil | Nil |

PART V111 of the Act - Outwork

| Section 133 | | | | Section 134 | | |
|---|---|--|--|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| Nature of Work | No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 133(1)(c) | No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council | No. of prosecut- ions for failure to supply lists | No. of instan- ces of work in unwhole- some premises | Notices served | Prose- cutions |
| Cosaques, Christmas Stockings etc. | 4 | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

In all a total of 271 visits were made to Factories throughout the year and the defects found mainly in connection with the cleanliness of sanitary conveniences were quickly remedied and did not require official action.

No prosecutions were instituted during the year.

OFFENSIVE TRADES

The following are established in the district :-

Two tripe boilers, one fat extractor and one fat melter.

MUNICIPAL HOSTEL

This is the only common lodging house in the town and is municipally owned and managed. The average daily number of lodgers for the year was:-

Males 84.2

Females 10.9

156 visits were made to the Hostel throughout the year.

Over the years the Hostel has built up a permanent number of residents, mainly old age pensioners, besides catering for the itinerant visitors who only wish accommodation for the night, although numbers are tending to decrease each year.

It is interesting to note that the average daily number of lodgers for previous years is as follows :-

| <u>Year</u> | <u>Males</u> | <u>Females</u> |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1968 | 97.21 | 13.01 |
| 1967 | 94.11 | 12.08 |
| 1966 | 104.84 | 12.47 |
| 1965 | 126.22 | 13.81 |

RODENT CONTROL

I am pleased to report that the Pest Control section for the Department is containing the rat population in Darwen and with the co-operation of the general public, who are usually quick to report sightings of rodents, disinfestation of these dangers to public health is proving no problem. No "warfarin" resistant rats are known to exist within the Borough and regular sewer treatment, inspection of suspect areas of the River Darwen and selected areas of the older part of town pay dividends in eliminating individual rats before colonies spring up.

Drainage systems still prove to be the likely source of rat infestation in and around dwellings and the twice yearly sewer treatment is often exceeded in the older areas of Darwen where rats are suspected.

Most of the larger industrial and commercial firms contract out to private disinfestation companies, to carry out regular surveys and treatments. The Corporation act in this way in rodent control on the Municipal Tip, thus relieving the Department's Staff to deal with domestic complaints.

Mice are still proving to be the rodent menace in the town. Baits containing alphachlorolose are proving very effective especially when used in low temperatures, although when experimented with in a small bakery, kills mostly of young mice, took place from bait placed in a cylinder cupboard and by a coke fired oven. Traps are still put to good use and householders are no longer completely relying on the Corporation to eradicate the casual mouse visitor as in former days. These rodents appear to be coming more wily as the years progress and many variations on the baiting theme have to be tried, including the mixing of different poisons with bait bases. Block control of mice is becoming increasingly necessary in terraced properties as there is a tendency today for houses to be vacated, without warning, by irresponsible elements and left littered with unwanted rubbish and household effects which provide ideal breeding conditions for rodents. Unless early discovery of these conditions is made, mice rapidly over-flow into neighbouring dwellings necessitating block treatments of the area.

Requests have been made to the Department for assistance in the eradication of rabbits, moles and feral pigeons, the latter being on the increase in the locality. Specialist firms have been of value to complainants and have proved to be most efficient and helpful to all concerned.

PEST DISINFESTATION

The disinfestation of premises of insect pests has continued throughout the year, the most common cause of complaint being the cockroach. Domestic premises prove to be the commonly infested but treatments have taken place in small canteens and food premises, shops and at an elderly peoples' home. In the latter case, as has been found previously in dealing with infestation in small nursery schools, the source of infestation has been found to exist in clinker/ash, bedding for concrete flags on the outside of the buildings, conditions during the summer months being warm and damp in these positions and being conducive to the metamorphosis of the insects.

The usual seasonal destruction of wasps' nests had to be carried out, the most difficult being in the loft space of a large detached house where the nest has been built between rafters and chimney breast. After destruction of the insects, it was removed, almost intact, and presented to a local school for study purposes.

Golden spider beetles are still erroneously confused with bedbugs, the larder beetle has been reported on three occasions, and fleas have been dealt with twice during the year.

| NO. OF PREMISES INSPECTED | NO. OF PREMISES FOUND INFESTED | NO. OF TREATMENTS CARRIED OUT | |
|---------------------------------|---|----------------------------------|------|
| | | FULL | TEST |
| 734 | 135 | 135 | 469 |

SEWER TREATMENTS

| DATE | NO. OF MANHOLES TREATED |
|---------|-------------------------|
| April | 236 |
| October | 237 |

LICENSED PREMISES

The steady progress in the modernization of licensed premises in the town continues.

Breweries are also co-operating well in sponsoring facilities for the preparation of snacks and meals. Licensees who prepare meals are being encouraged to improve standards and many attend courses for this purpose.

55 inspections and 166 reinspections were made throughout the year.

CHIEF SANITARY REQUIREMENTS OF THE DISTRICT

The culverting, embanking and, as far as possible purification of the river.

The clearance of derelict and neglected sites.

The reduction of the number of private water supplies and the purification and protection of the remainder.

The river at certain dry periods of the year is virtually an open drain, receiving industrial effluent and rubbish discarded by irresponsible people.

Derelict and neglected sites still abound and encourage the dumping of rubbish and old vehicles. Weeds tend to flourish, although these are now being systematically reduced and it is hoped that the measures now being taken will reduce the annual weed growth to a minimum.

SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA

| | |
|---|-------|
| Number of houses visited | 1,608 |
| Number of inspections of factories and workplaces | 404 |
| Number of inspections of bakehouses | 35 |
| Number of inspections of refuse tips | 17 |
| Complaints received and investigated | 293 |
| Number of re-inspections made | 6,052 |
| Visits paid to houses (re cases of infectious diseases) . | 16 |
| Number of smoke observations taken | 6 |
| Number of drains tested | 159 |
| Total number of defects discovered | 213 |
| Informal notices served | 213 |
| Statutory notices served | 93 |
| Number of nuisances abated, including outstanding nuisances from previous year | 328 |

LIST OF NUISANCES DISCOVERED

| | |
|---|-----|
| Defective drains | 110 |
| Choked and defective sewers | 5 |
| Defective soil pipes and water closets | 1 |
| Defective downspouts, gutters, roofs and external walls . | 15 |
| Defective plastering | 5 |
| Defective roofs and damp walls | 19 |
| Dirty houses and premises | 0 |
| Dirty and dilapidated closet buildings | 2 |
| Accumulation of refuse | 89 |
| Defective fire-ranges | 0 |
| Choked waste water closets | 3 |
| Choked water closets | 14 |
| Insanitary yards | 0 |
| Defective internal floors | 1 |
| Insufficient ventilation | 3 |
| Burst water pipes | 0 |
| Miscellaneous nuisances | 17 |

H O U S I N G

The table below gives particulars of action taken specifically under the provisions of the Housing Acts in contradistinction to action under the Public Health Acts.

STATISTICS

Number of new houses and flats erected during the year:

| | |
|---|-----|
| (a) Total (including numbers given separately under (b) | 39 |
| (i) By Local Authority | 6 |
| (ii) By other Local Authorities | Nil |
| (iii) By other bodies or persons | 33 |
| (b) With State assistance under the Housing Acts:- | |
| (i) By the Local Authority (included under (a) (i) above) | Nil |
| (ii) By other bodies (included under (a) (iii) above) | Nil |

Inspections of dwelling-houses during the year:

| | |
|---|-----|
| (1) Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) | 147 |
| (2) Number of inspections made for both purposes | 572 |
| (3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation | 32 |
| (4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation ... | 0 |

STATISTICS Continued

Remedy of defects during the year without service of formal notices.

| | |
|---|---|
| Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers | 4 |
|---|---|

Action under statutory powers during the year.
Proceedings under Section 9,10 and 12 of the Housing Act, 1957.

| | |
|---|---|
| (a) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which notices were served requiring repairs:- | |
| Preliminary | 0 |
| Statutory | 0 |
| (b) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of formal notices:- | |
| By owners | 0 |
| By Local Authority in default of owners | 0 |

Proceedings under Sections 16 and 17 of the Housing Act, 1957.

| | |
|---|-----|
| (i) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made | 29 |
| (ii) Number of dwelling-houses in ownership of Local Authority dealt with in accordance with Section 3(3A) of the Housing Subsidies Act, 1956, as directed in Appendix 11 of Circular 33/56 with a view to demolition | 0 |
| (iii) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders | 30 |
| (iv) Number of houses demolished where action has been taken under Section 53 of the Over Darwen Improvement Act, 1879 | Nil |

HOUSE PURCHASE AND HOUSING ACT, 1959 and HOUSING ACTS, 1961 and 1964. STANDARD GRANTS.

| | |
|---|-----|
| Applications submitted to local authority for improvement to (a) full standard | 220 |
| (b) reduced standard | NIL |
| Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to (a) full standard | 220 |
| (b) reduced standard | NIL |
| Work completed | 169 |

OVERCROWDING

There is one case of overcrowding known to the Health Department, but because of the general circumstances of the family has been licenced under the provisions of Section 80 of the Housing Act, 1957.

Overcrowding as to mixed sexes in families, not involving legal overcrowding occurs from time to time, but with the help of the Housing Department these cases are quickly attended to.

CLEARANCE AREAS

Since the new Housing Act came into operation, the Corporation have proceeded to implement the Clearance Area programme with the assurance that the owners of property concerned will be able to get better compensation than was possible under previous legislation.

The first Clearance Area represented was the Ashton Street Clearance Area in September.

It was proposed that this would be quickly followed by the Ellenshaw Area Phase one in the early part of 1970.

This would then link up with the new housing development taking place in the Anyon Street Area at the present time.

The total number of houses involved in the two Clearance Areas will be 196.

Further Clearance Areas will follow as quickly as possible.

Thirty-five houses, mainly in prospective clearance areas were acquired, making a total of 236 houses acquired in all in redevelopment areas over the last few years.

15 premises were officially closed and 30 premises were demolished during the year.

It is interesting to note that since 1947, 1,046 properties have been demolished.

HOUSES IN MULTIPLE OCCUPATION

Two premises are used for multiple occupation.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

The Local Authority, is the Food and Drugs Authority for the Borough.

The Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1963.

The following licences have been issued under these Regulations.

| | |
|-------------------------------|-----|
| Untreated Milk | 16 |
| Pasteurised Milk | 39 |
| Sterilised Milk | 97 |
| Ultra Heat Treated Milk | 32 |
| Total | 184 |

Bacteriological Examination of Milk

| | Results | | |
|--------------------------------------|----------|----------|------------|
| | Positive | Negative | No. Result |
| Total No. of samples submitted | 95 | | |
| Tuberculosis | Nil | 26 | 69 |
| Brucellosis Ring Test | 7 | 86 | 2 |
| " Culture Test | 1 | 6 | 88 |
| " Biological Test | Nil | 17 | 78 |

The positive culture case of Brucellosis was followed-up at the farm concerned and as a result of individual sampling of the herds the animals secreting positive Brucella organisms were isolated and later slaughtered.

Samples of Milk for Statutory Tests

| | No. of Samples | Results | | |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------|----------------|--------------|
| | | Satisfactory | Unsatisfactory | Void Samples |
| Raw Milk: | | | | |
| Methylene Blue Test | 86 | 69 | 15 | 2 |
| Heat Treated Milk: | | | | |
| Methylene Blue Test | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Phosphatase Test | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Turbidity Test | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |
| Colony Count Test | Nil | Nil | Nil | Nil |

The fifteen samples unsatisfactorily reported on were passed on for appropriate action to the Divisional Milk Officer.

Food Premises Registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955.

| Type of Business | No. Registered at end of year | No. of Inspections of registered premises during year |
|--|-------------------------------|---|
| Preserved Food Manufacturers | 21 | 63 |
| Ice Cream Manufacturers | 2 | 9 |
| Ice Cream Manufacturers and/or Sellers | 125 | 180 |

Action taken under the Ice-Cream (Heat Treatment etc) Regulations, 1959 and 1963.

Routine inspections of ice cream manufacturers was carried out. Five samples of ice cream were satisfactorily reported on as genuine, two samples were reported as unsatisfactory.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Samples Taken by the Department.

| No. of Samples | Description | Formal | Informal |
|----------------|---------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 23 | Milk | | 23 |
| 1 | Home-made Butter Toffee | | 1 |
| 1 | Sponge Sandwich | | 1 |
| 1 | Cream | | 1 |
| 2 | Chicken in Jelly | | 2 |
| 1 | Virol | | 1 |
| 1 | Meat Pie | | 1 |
| 1 | Pressed Beef | | 1 |
| 1 | Nutella | | 1 |
| 1 | Sliced Beef in Jellied Consomme | | 1 |
| 1 | Ministrone Soup | | 1 |
| 1 | Salmon | | 1 |
| 1 | Evaporated Milk | | 1 |
| 1 | Chicken Supreme | | 1 |
| 1 | Turkey Steak | | 1 |
| 1 | Tomatoes | | 1 |
| 2 | Pickled Onions | | 2 |
| 1 | Dundee Cake | | 1 |
| 1 | Vodka | | 1 |
| 2 | Whisky | | 2 |
| 1 | Brandy | | 1 |
| 1 | Gin | | 1 |

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1955. Samples Taken by the Department. Continued

| No. of Samples | Description | Formal | Informal |
|----------------|-------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 2 | Bacardi Rum | | 2 |
| 2 | Cream Sherry | | 2 |
| 1 | Medium Dry Sherry | | 1 |
| 1 | Chocolate Liqueur Bottles ... | | 1 |
| 1 | Bubble Gum | | 1 |
| 1 | Milk Roll | | 1 |
| 1 | Double Cream | | 1 |
| 1 | Instant Coffee | | 1 |
| 1 | Butter Osborne Biscuits | | 1 |

All samples were reported genuine with the exception of :

- | | | |
|---|---|--------------------------|
| 1 | Milk - Low in solids not fat | Producer notified |
| 1 | Butter Sponge - Total Fat $23\frac{3}{4}\%$ of which not more than 1% was butter fat. | Producer formally warned |

Legal proceedings taken with regard to offences in the preparation, storage, handling or sale of food.

- (1) Meat and Potato Pasty found to contain a cockroach. Defendants pleaded guilty and were fined £10 plus £5: 5: 0d advocates fees.

Other action taken following complaints regarding food

(1) Cream Doughnut

The doughnut was purchased from a vending machine housed at a local factory and was found to be mouldy. Investigations were carried out and the management and suppliers of the item were advised as to the precautions necessary to prevent a recurrence.

(2) Sweet and Sour Pork Dish

Complaint received that meal tasted of fish. Samples of the meal and the cooking medium were analysed with negative results, also the kitchen utensils and cooking methods were examined and found to be satisfactory. No other complaints were received from people partaking of the same meal. No further action.

(3) Sausage Roll

This was another case of a food commodity purchased from a vending machine. It was found that the conditions of temperature and humidity of the machine were such as to promote the formation of mould and the firm concerned undertook to sell this type of food only from the canteen where conditions of storage could be properly controlled.

(4) Jar of Blackcurrant Jam

Complaint of foreign body within the contents of the jar. The foreign body consisted of a small snail or crustacean and the firm concerned instituted a full investigation into the case. All processes and process checks were examined with special emphasis on the "human element" section of the programme. The firm undertook all practicable means to prevent a recurrence.

It is interesting to note that two complaints were received regarding food purchased from coin operated vending machines. This emphasizes the need for great care in the application of Food vending machines as on occasions they are installed in situations where proper control of storage conditions are extremely difficult.

NUMBER OF FOOD PREMISES AS AT 31st DECEMBER, 1969.

| Type of Business | Number |
|--|--------|
| General grocers and provision dealers | 86 |
| Greengrocers and fruiterers (including those selling wet fish, game etc) | 30 |
| Fishmongers (including those selling poultry, game etc) | 3 |
| Meat shops (butchers, purveyors of cooked and preserved meats, tripe, etc.) | 48 |
| Bakers and/or confectioners | 36 |
| Fried fish shops | 20 |
| Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals, ice-cream etc. | 43 |
| Licensed premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, cafes, snack bars and similar catering establishments | 94 |
| Basement Bakehouses | 1 |
| Others | Nil |

FOOD HYGIENE (GENERAL) REGULATIONS, 1960

Food premises in general maintain a high standard and the regular visits of the Department's Inspectors help to remind food handlers of the importance of the Regulations.

Minor infringements were quickly remedied by informal action and no prosecutions were instituted during the year.

Total of 658 inspections with 1,025 re-inspections were carried out throughout the year.

UNSOUND FOOD

46 visits in all were made regarding the certification of food not fit for human consumption. These were in the main due to voluntary surrender by shopkeepers and warehouses, but in some cases were detected during routine inspections or as a result of complaints.

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1969

| Amount | Nature of Food | Amount | Nature of Food |
|-----------|-----------------------------|-----------|------------------------|
| 341 tins | Assorted Vegetables | 455 tins | Assorted Fruits |
| 1584 tins | Assorted Soups | 8 tins | Salmon |
| 75 tins | Beans | 43 tins | Assorted Milk Puddings |
| 14 tins | Corned Beef | 5 tins | Cream |
| 48 tins | Coffee | 29 tins | Spaghetti |
| 387 tins | Condensed Milk | 5 tins | Sausages |
| 2 tins | Top of the Milk | 21 tins | Minced Beef |
| 17 tins | Assorted Sponge Puddings | 5 tins | Steak |
| 3 tins | Beef Italiane | 12 tins | Stewed Steak |
| 29 tins | Baby Dinners | 1 tin | Kidney Rissole |
| 3 tins | Custard Powder | 13 tins | Pilchards |
| 9 tins | Lager and Lime | 1 tin | Instant Milk |
| 2 tins | Chopped Beef | 3 tins | Chopped Pork |
| 1 tin | Prawns | 2 tins | Nesquick |
| 5 tins | Evaporated Milk | 2 tins | Mackrel |
| 10 tins | Cheese Flaps | 12 tins | Ravioli |
| 1 tin | Steak Dumpling | 2 tins | Luncheon Meat |
| 4 tins | Macaroni | 2 tins | Lamb Tongue |
| 2 tins | Sweet Magic | 10 tins | Custard |
| 1 tin | Shrimps | 1 tin | Crab |
| 1 tin | Pork Pie | 2 tins | Lemonade |
| 1 tin | Syrup | 1 tin | Steak and Kidney |
| 1 tin | Chicken & Mushroom | 3 tins | Chopped Ham and Pork |
| 1 tin | Polish Pork | 1 tin | Chicken |
| 1 tin | Strawberry Milk Shake | 1 tin | Casseroles Lamb & Peas |
| 1 jar | Red Cabbage | 69 jars | Assorted Jam |
| 31 jars | Pickled Onions | 28 jars | Cream |
| 3 jars | Pickled Beetroot | 1 jar | Chicken |
| 2 jars | Marmite | 2 jars | Tomato Pickle |
| 1 jar | Toasty Grill | 1 jar | Honey |
| 3 jars | Mixed Pickle | 2 jars | Tomato Ketchup |
| 1 jar | Garlic | 2 jars | Sandwich Spread |
| 2 jars | Bovril | 8 jars | Mussels |
| 3 cartons | Raspberry Yoghourt | 18 bars | Chocolate |
| 1 bottle | Ribena | 2 pkts. | Maltesers |
| 1 carton | Glace Cherries | 1 bottle | Orange Drink |
| 1 carton | Mincemeat | 1 bottle | Cream |
| 22 pieces | Blue Stilton Cheese | 2 drums | Table Salt |
| 12 pkts. | Cheese Spread | 3 bottles | H.P. Sauce |
| 8 pkts. | Toffee | 328 pkts. | Cheese |
| 1 pkt. | Soft Brown Sugar | 15 pkts. | Rice |
| 1 pkt. | Macaroni | 1 pkt. | Sago |
| 27 pkts. | Cereal | 1 pkt. | Split Peas |
| 3 pkts. | Spaghetti Hoops | 2 pkts. | Semolina |
| | | 2 pkts. | Oats |

TABLE SHOWING AMOUNT AND NATURE OF FOOD CONDEMNED DURING 1969. Continued

| Amount | Nature of Food | Amount | Nature of Food |
|----------|------------------------|----------|--------------------|
| 18 pkts. | Cakes | 30 pkts. | Biscuits |
| 1 pkt. | Tea | 7 pkts. | Raisins |
| 2 pkts. | Crumbs | 3 pkts. | Crisps |
| 4 pkts. | Cooking Lard | 1 pkt. | Mashed Potato |
| 22 pkts. | Peas | 8 pkts. | Stuffing |
| 11 pkts. | Beans | 2 pkts. | Pasties |
| 1 pkt. | Batter Mix | 2 pkts. | Squeak Fry-up |
| 1 pkt. | Demerara Sugar | 3 pkts. | Cream of Tartar |
| 27 pkts. | Kippers | 24 pkts. | Haddock Fillets |
| 8 pkts. | Haddock Steaks | 18 pkts. | Plaice Fillets |
| 4 pkts. | Buttered Smoke Haddock | 20 pkts. | Cod Fillets |
| 22 pkts. | Cod in Batter | 2 pkts. | Cod Portions |
| 24 pkts. | Cod Steaks | 73 pkts. | Cod Fish Cakes |
| 33 pkts. | Salmon Fish Cakes | 32 pkts. | Savoury Fish Cakes |
| 35 pkts. | Crispy Cod Fries | 13 pkts. | Fish and Chips |
| 1 pkt. | Dried Fruit Mix | 97 lbs. | Butter |
| 75 lbs. | Ham | 6 lb. | Ox Tongue |
| 21 lbs. | Peanuts | 23 lbs. | Pork Loin |
| 271 lbs. | Flour | 6 lb. | Shoulder Steak |
| 78 lbs. | Cheese | 2 lbs. | Augustine figet |
| 11 lbs. | Margarine | 13 lbs. | Lard |
| 1 lb. | Peanut Butter | 10 lb. | Pork Shoulder |

NUISANCE FROM NOISE

Mainly due to the activities of the District Inspectors there has been a marked decrease in the number of noise complaints and with the increased co-operation from industrial concerns in the town it is hoped this tendency will continue.

The main complaints this year have been from people annoyed by noise from the barking of dogs which in many cases could have been eliminated by a little thought by the owners.

TIPS

Conditions at private tips which for some years have necessitated constant surveillance changed considerably during the past year. As the bulk of the tips were due for renewal of planning consent it is hoped that more stringent conditions will be enforced than on previous occasions.

INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND FOOD POISONING

A total of 16 visits were made during the year regarding the investigation of infectious diseases. There were 4 cases of Food Poisoning reported during the year.

SHOPS ACT, 1950

The provisions of the Act regarding closing hours, early closing, Sunday trading and the employment of young persons is administered by the Department.

DISEASES OF ANIMALS ACT, 1950. (Movement of Animals)

The duties under this Section of the Act are carried out by the Lancashire County Police who issue all the necessary licences controlling the movement of animals.

HAIRDRESSING ESTABLISHMENTS

Ladies hairdressing continues to be a popular business. There are 55 hairdressing premises registered under the provisions of the Darwen Corporation Act, 1948.

Premises are inspected prior to opening and work done to comply with the Regulations.

Reinspections are carried out from time to time but very little trouble is experienced with this type of business after the initial alterations are carried out.

PET ANIMALS ACT, 1951.

Two premises are licensed under this Act. Both were satisfactorily conducted throughout the year.

ANIMAL BOARDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1963.

Four premises are licensed under the provisions of this Act. All were satisfactorily maintained during the year for the welfare of animals.

RIDING ESTABLISHMENTS ACT, 1964

One establishment was licensed under the Act. Premises are only licensed after the receipt of a satisfactory veterinary report.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948 and 1951

No action was necessary during the year under Section 17 of the 1948 Act.

Two bodies were buried under the provisions of Section 50 of the 1948 Act, which requires the Local Authority to dispose of the bodies of persons who have died in its area if it appears no suitable funeral arrangements would otherwise be made.

MORTUARY

56 bodies were received at the Mortuary during the year and post-mortem examinations were carried out on them all.

